

Students report possible sighting of escaped convict

JOSIE LOZA AND LEIA BAEZ
Editor-in-chief and Copy editor

Although harsh weather conditions have been a worry for the UNO community, there is another reason to be on alert.

Many have reported a possible sighting of prison escapee Michael McGuire using a payphone Tuesday evening inside the north entrance of the UNO Milo Bail Student Center.

McGuire, who was serving time for rape and kidnapping, escaped from a Tecumseh, Neb., prison early Tuesday.

Investigators said McGuire was spotted on a surveillance camera in the Student Center shortly after 6:30 p.m. Tuesday. He tried to place a phone call to his lawyer, James Martin Davis, on Tuesday night.

Investigators said that call might have been made from a payphone at 6:40 p.m. from the Student Center. Davis was not available for comment Wednesday.

Josh Shipman, a UNO student and Information desk employee who worked Tuesday night, said an Omaha police officer interviewed him later that evening. The officer asked Shipman if he had seen McGuire and possibly an accomplice enter the Student Center. He proceeded to show him a mug shot of McGuire.

Andrew Vaughn, also a student and Information Desk employee, said he and Shipman did not see McGuire.

"It was a little bit of a surprise," he said. "If we had further notice beforehand, we might have been able to notice him."

McGuire, an inmate at the Tecumseh State Correctional Institution, escaped while on a medical transfer at 9:45 a.m. Tuesday.

A handgun was waiting for McGuire inside a Tecumseh hospital restroom after he finished a medical test, according to the Nebraska State Patrol.

McGuire, 54, used a gun to overpower two prison guards, take control of a state van and flee north from Tecumseh.



***Michael E. McGuire is described as a 54-year-old white male, 5 feet and 7 inches tall. He is about 170 pounds with blonde hair and blue eyes.**

***McGuire was last seen wearing a tan jacket, white T-shirt and khaki pants. He is believed to be armed with a small-caliber handgun. He is considered dangerous.**

***Anyone with information on the whereabouts of McGuire is asked to contact the local law enforcement agency or call 911.**

see CONVICT, page 3

Be cautious and aware on campus

LEIA BAEZ

Copy editor

Sophomore

Jennifer Kopanic is generous. She is so generous that since temperatures have plunged, Kopanic has given rides to students she doesn't even know, simply to keep them from walking in the cold.

That's not the smartest idea anymore.

Prison escapee Michael McGuire

was spotted in the UNO Milo Bail Student Center at about 6:40 p.m. Tuesday. He was viewed on a surveillance camera using the payphone near the north entrance of the Student Center. Investigators said he contacted his attorney James Martin Davis around that time.

Nebraska State Patrol said McGuire might be armed with a small-caliber handgun and he is considered dangerous.

But that was the last thing on Kopanic's mind.

You think most people here are students," she said. "I probably wouldn't hesitate to give someone a ride."

And Becky Lance agreed: "I could see her picking anyone up and giving them a



photo by Michelle Bishop

Traveling in small groups is recommended safety precaution when walking through dark and deserted areas late at night.

ride."

"You just have to follow your gut. That's the kicker. If something just doesn't feel right then definitely no picking up of strangers."

In order to maintain safety at all times, Michael Denney, UNO self-defense instructor, said people must be aware of all surroundings.

"The biggest thing is to be alert and on guard," he said. "You have to have your radar on. That's the most important thing."

You can't afford to be spaced out. You have to be aware of things and trust your

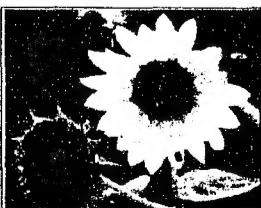
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UNO students react to McGuire campus sighting

KIMBERLY BRYANT
News editor

UNO is not your traditional university. Students of different races, backgrounds and ages attend the university. So when a student sees a 54-year old man using a payphone in the Milo Bail Student Center, he or she would assume that person is just a non-traditional student.

That was not the case Tuesday night when Tecumseh, Neb., prison escapee Michael McGuire was seen in the Student Center. Police say with the help of an accomplice he may have traveled throughout Omaha either by foot or car.

Many UNO students were on pins and needles Wednesday night when they heard news of the sighting. They were shocked to know that he was on the UNO campus.

"That's really scary, because if he's been sentenced for 120 years in prison and he's in here around students, you don't really feel secure," said Tosin Makinde, a senior.

"If people knew about it, then they wouldn't feel safe on campus and it would be a concern," said Kate Sjogren, an alumna. "But to track every single person who comes through the doors [of the Student Center] would be impossible."

Members of Alpha Xi Delta Sorority were told at their meeting Tuesday night

while leaving the university to stay in groups and be more aware of their surroundings.

"We were told to make sure to leave in groups and make sure we left with our other sisters and to get a ride with someone in case we were in the parking garage or across the street at St. Mary's," said Kelli Vomacka, president of Alpha Xi Delta Chapter.

She said Jennifer Thompson, a chapter adviser instructed the young women, to be more cautious because the escapee was reported to be in Omaha. Thompson is also a probation officer.

Thompson said in a phone interview Wednesday night that she heard about McGuire's escape on the radio. She had no idea that McGuire was seen on campus.

"In my profession and as an adviser, it was my duty to let them know," she said.

Thompson said she also wanted the sorority members to be aware of their surroundings since many of them walk to their cars by themselves.

In a campus setting, students easily become accustomed to walking alone at night and tend to forget how accessible the area is to strangers.

"I don't think people realize how open a college campus really is," said Josh Shipman, a UNO student said.

SNOW NEVER STOPS



photo by Danielle Petersen

Snow was piled by the stop sign near University Village on Monday Jan. 26. UNO has canceled school twice this semester due to harsh weather and the snow just keeps coming.

Marijuana found at University Village

MARION RHODES

Staff writer

A UNO resident from the University Village found illegal drugs in building five last Thursday, Campus Security reported.

The student notified a resident assistant, who turned the substance over to officials, said Paul Kosel, assistant manager of Campus Security. He said less than one ounce of marijuana was found.

Kosel said incidences of controlled substance use are rare in campus housing units. In 2002,

Campus Security received only four drug law referrals for disciplinary action from residential housing on campus.

"If we get one or two a semester, that's probably a lot," Kosel said. "That's obviously not to say that there may not be more going on that we don't know about."

Kent Lavene, assistant director of University Village, said some instances where controlled substances are found in campus housing may not be reported to Campus Security. However, he added that the occurrence of such

incidences is rare.

"It's certainly not as common here as it is at other campuses," he said.

Lavene couldn't comment on the details and proceedings in this case. He said that drug incidences are handled on an individual basis depending on the circumstances.

Generally, he said, punishment may range from probation to eviction from the housing units. Some offenders also attend drug and alcohol education classes on campus.

"It's certainly not overlooked," he said.

Campus Crime Log

MARION RHODES

Staff writer

Thursday, Jan. 22

12:20 a.m. Student reported a controlled substance present at University Village.

A Public Log entry last week stated a student reported a controlled substance at Scott Village. The log has been corrected.

Saturday, Jan. 24

8:18 p.m. Staff member reported theft of university property from Sapp Fieldhouse.

8:30 p.m. Student reported theft of personal property from vehicle parked in Lot Q.

Tuesday, Jan. 27

4:48 p.m. Student reported theft of personal property from vehicle parked at St. Margaret Mary's Church.

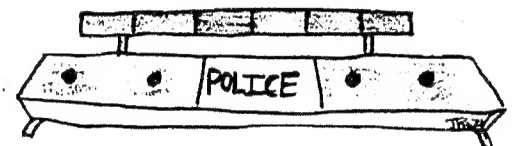
Thursday, Jan. 29

2:40 p.m. Student reported theft of personal property from vehicle parked at First Christian Church.

Sunday, Feb. 1

3:45 a.m. Student reported disorderly conduct at Scott Village

6:30 a.m. Campus Security identified and reported a vehicle break-in in Lot 9.



College students easy targets for identity theft

CRYSTAL REID

Senior staff writer

College students may be the easiest targets for identity theft crimes, according to reports released by the Office of the Inspector General at the United States Department of Education.

According to these reports, identity theft is the use of your name and other personal information for financial benefit of the thief. The crime normally involves credit cards, loans and bank accounts opened and abused in your name without your knowledge.

Your money may not necessarily be stolen, but your credibility with creditors, employers and even graduate schools will be affected.

There were 9.9 million victims of identity theft in 2003, costing over \$1 billion dollars to consumers.

Unfortunately, it is almost always the responsibility of the victims to repair the damage done to their credit.

Many students may not realize how accessible their personal data is on a daily basis. Almost half of all college students regularly receive pre-approved credit applications and subsequently toss them without shredding.

Students rarely check their credit card or bank statements for discrepancies.

A newer form of identity theft is

using a student's school ID number, social security number and other information to procure student loans, according to the reports.

Paul Kosel, assistant manager for UNO's campus security, has a few tips on how to prevent identity theft.

If a credit card or wallet is lost,

creditor unless you initiated contact.

Wade Robinson, assistant vice chancellor for Student Development Services, said although identity theft has not been a problem on campus, students need to be aware of it.

"It is critical for newer students to understand that this is no longer a high risk environment," Robinson said. "Students are now exposed to people who may have criminal intent."

Robinson also assured that UNO's student information databases are secure.

Most people may not stand the amount of money we employ to make sure our databases are as secure as Robinson said.

If you have become a victim of identity theft, the U.S. Department of Justice suggests that you immediately contact the fraud departments of the three major credit

bureaus: Equifax (www.equifax.com), Experian (www.experian.com), and Transunion (www.transunion.com).

Second, close all accounts that have been opened fraudulently and cancel any stolen credit cards.

Finally, contact your local police department.

If you suspect identity theft with your student loans, contact the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Inspector General at oig.hotline@ed.gov or call 1-800-MISUSED.



if it's free, you should just do it once in awhile."

The U.S. Department of Education also has tips on how to reduce risk of becoming a victim of identity theft.

First and foremost, do not carry personally identifying documents with you, such as a birth certificate and social security card.

Memorize pin numbers and passwords. Don't write them down.

Shred pre-approved credit applications and never give information over the phone to a

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The prison guards were later found unharmed and handcuffed to a tree by the side of a road near Plattsmouth, Neb., said State Patrol officials. Police found the prison van shortly before 4 p.m. near 25th Street and St. Mary's Avenue in Omaha.

McGuire began serving time in August of 1983 for first-degree sexual assault, robbery, use of a firearm to commit a felony and kidnapping. He was sentenced up to 193 years in prison. In June 2001, he was involved in an escape attempt at the Nebraska State Penitentiary in Lincoln.

Authorities believe that McGuire is still hiding somewhere in the metro. He is believed to be armed with a small caliber handgun and is considered dangerous.

Various law agencies are on the lookout for McGuire. Omaha police were seen working with UNO's campus security officers Wednesday evening.

Deb Collins, spokeswoman for the Nebraska State Patrol, said police have received dozens of tips from the public.

Students, faculty and people visiting the university are cautioned to be aware of their surroundings.

UNO hasn't been on such high alert since the mountain lion sightings reported in Memorial Park last semester. Paul Kosel, assistant manager for UNO's campus security, said there is a heightened sense of awareness because of what was going on around our area.

"Many officers have been out canvassing areas where the van was found and other areas," Collins said. She added that she wouldn't be surprised to see officers within the UNO area.

Collins advised people to travel in large groups, pay attention to all surroundings and keep vehicles locked. This would not be a good time to leave your car running while allowing it to warm.

Kimberly Bryant, Chris Machian, Valerie Cutshall and J. Parker Adair contributed to this report.

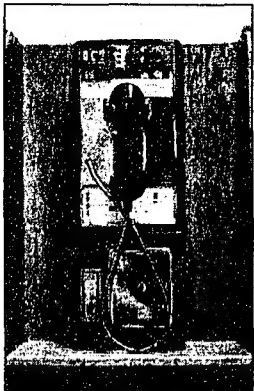


photo by Chris Machian

Payphone used to identify location of escaped convict.

Career Information Day provides prospective job opportunities for students

LORI STUHR

Staff writer

Students will have an opportunity to rub elbows with many of Omaha's business representatives.

Career Information Day will be on Feb. 9 in the Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is being sponsored by UNO's Career Exploration & Outreach Department.

Career Information Day will give students a chance to gather information from and make contacts with 30 different Omaha companies. A few of the organizations included in the event are Americorp, Applied Underwriters, Mutual of Omaha and Nebraska Methodist College.

It will allow students to network with many Omaha employers, said Michelle Perone, manager of UNO's

Career Exploration & Outreach Department.

Career fairs in the past have had low student turnouts. This is disappointing to Assistant Vice Chancellor Bill Swanson.

"Employers want to interact and get to know UNO students and students really need to take advantage of that," Swanson said. "Students need to start making contacts and getting involved."

Swanson believes attending events such as Career Information Day is a great way to network with future employers.

"Making contacts and developing relationships [with these companies] can lead to internships and jobs," Swanson said.

The Career Exploration & Outreach Department will also sponsor a Job Fair on March 9. The Job Fair will have employers actively

seeking to fill positions.

The Career Exploration & Outreach Department provides many career-related services for students. Some of these services include workshops on resume writing, training in interviewing skills and provide career guidance.

If students cannot attend Career Information Day, extra brochures and information from the organizations attending will be available in the Career Exploration & Outreach Office.

For more information about the upcoming career fairs or for career guidance, students can access the Career Exploration & Outreach Web site

at www.unomaha.edu/~outreach/ or they can visit the office located in the Eppley Administration Building, Room 106.

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instincts."

In addition, Denney said traveling with another person or in a group is important. "This is probably the biggest safe guard you can have," he said. "If you look at crime when

someone is alone versus when someone is with another person, it drops dramatically."

McGuire is prison smart and street smart so it is important to keep your distance away from any person that seems suspicious, Denney said.

Also, staying near lighted areas

and always locking your vehicle are ways to increase your safety.

Another precaution would be to carry mace spray at all times and in a place where it can be easily reached, Denney said.

"You have got to be sharp," he said.

CAREER INFORMATION DAY

Monday, Feb. 9

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

MBSC,
2nd floor Ballroom

Network with representatives from a variety of businesses and organizations. Explore your career options, obtain information about area employers, and inquire about future employment opportunities.

The first 500 students get free lunch!

For more information, contact:

Kathy Hitt, Michelle Perone or Bill Swanson

EAB 106, 554-3534

CAREER EXPLORATION AND OUTREACH

It's HIP-HOP and it don't stop: The latest news in the industry...

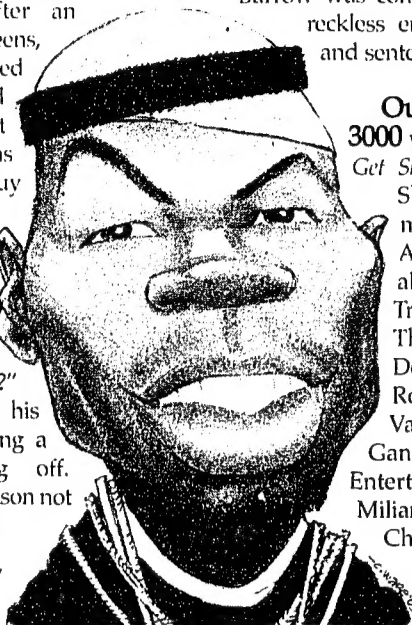
LELA BAEZ

Entertainment editor

Police said they were not seeking multi-platinum rapper **Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson**, after an alleged incident in Queens, New York. It was reported that 50 Cent threatened gunplay at a video shoot Jan. 31. GF Records was shooting a video on Guy Brewer Boulevard in Queens, when Jackson allegedly drove up, got out of his vehicle and allegedly said, "What up? You ready for this?" Jackson then extended his arm as if he were firing a gun, before driving off. Representatives for Jackson not available for comment.

Sean "P. Diddy" Combs has settled a \$3 million dollar lawsuit stemming from a 1999 nightclub shooting. Combs' former chauffeur Wardel Fenderson claimed that Combs and his former bodyguard Anthony "Wolf" Jones, forced him to speed away from the scene of a Manhattan-based shooting. The terms of the settlement were

pending. Combs was scheduled to testify Thursday. Combs and Jones were acquitted of gun possession and bribery charges in March 2001. Jamal "Shyne" Barrow was convicted of assault and reckless endangerment charges and sentenced to eight years.



OutKast's Andre 3000 will be joining MGM's *Get Shorty* sequel, *Be Cool*. Shooting starts this month in Los Angeles. Andre 3000 will star alongside John Travolta, Uma Thurman, Danny DeVito, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, Vince Vaughn, James Gandolfini, Cedric the Entertainer and Christina Milian. *Be Cool* centers on Chili Palmer, a loan shark-turned-feature film producer who gives up the movie business when he discovers a singer, Linda Moon (Milian), whom he wants to make famous. Andre 3000 will play the leader of a rap group called the Dub MDs.

SOURCES: www.allhiphop.com and www.rapiindustry.com

Tick, Tick...BOOM! set to explode Millennium Theatre

KYLE J. LYNN

Staff writer

The musical *tick, tick...BOOM!* by Jonathan Larson, creator of the acclaimed Broadway smash *RENT*, is headed to Omaha for its Midwest premiere Feb. 12, courtesy of Stages of Omaha Theatre Company.

The show follows the author, Larson (Ryan Pivonka) in his pre-*RENT* life. He is almost 30 years old, and he is faced with difficult choices while continuing to try and make it as a writer. His girlfriend Susan (Amy Krivohavek) wants to get married and move out of the city. His best friend Michael (Jerry R. Ditter) is already successful and making money on Madison Avenue. Larson is stuck waiting tables and trying to write his breakthrough American musical.

The cast includes a total of 10 characters played by the three actors. The show is directed by double-role playing Ditter with music direction by Keefer Peterson.

Seeing *RENT* would be a helpful tool before attending *tick, tick...BOOM!*, but it

is not a necessary prerequisite, especially since *RENT* was written after *tick, tick*.

Larson wrote several versions of *tick, tick* and at one time, it was called *30/90*, representing Larson's nearing the age of 30. On the opening night of *RENT*, the musical that infused rock/pop with a musical touch and would make him a star, Larson suffered a fatal aortic aneurysm when he was 35. This proved especially tragic for those who knew him and for the public's thirst for anything by Larson.

Larson originally conceived the musical as a monologue, but his producing partner Victoria Leacock, brought the script to David Auburn, author of *Proof*, and he restructured the piece into an ensemble.

The Stages of Omaha production will run from Feb. 12 until March 7 every Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. There will not be a show Feb. 28. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for students, senior citizens, military and TAG members, and \$10 for groups of 10 or more. For more information, call 345-8166 or log on to stagesofomaha.com.

Local DJ releases CD on Valentine's Day

JESSICA RIAL

Staff writer

With Valentine's Day quickly approaching, local DJ Brent Crampton, who has been a disc jockey in the Omaha area and surrounding cities, is not worried about red roses or dark chocolates.

This UNO student is eagerly anticipating the Feb. 14 release of *Musique Mix Series 03*, an 18-track mix of house, deep, jazz, funk, and afro music.

Crampton will perform from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. at his Valentine's Day CD release party at Bar 415, located at 415 S. 13th St.

Crampton had a lot of creative freedom while mixing this album, which has no specific theme. On the album, Crampton gives his interpretation on house music by featuring top house music producers such as: the Swirl People and Gene Farris, promotional material from Joey Youngman, an exclusive track by Don Tinsley from the Urban Jazz Naturals and a house remix of Jill Scott's "It's Love."

This album is the third in the *Musique Mix Series*, released by the *Musique* production group. Each album in the series features one artist with his own unique style of music.

Between mixing the tracks for *MM03* and attending classes, Crampton has kept himself busy with local performances at the Velvet Lounge and Bar 415. Of *MM03*, Crampton said, "It's what you would hear if you went out to see me play."

Crampton enjoys getting the opportunity to network with other artists through sampling their work.

"It's all right to use their songs," he said. "They appreciate honesty and knowing you're playing their music."

MM03 varies from his previous in-house releases.

"This time the CD has been mastered, giving it a better, smooth sound," he said.

Crampton's album will only be available at his live performances and at www.essentialmusique.com.

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FEBRUARY 13

**Stop by THE GATEWAY on campus
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50 FIRST DATES
on Thursday, February 12th, AMC Oakview 24, 7:30 PM.**

This film is rated "PG-13" for crude sexual humor and drug references.
Passes are available while supplies last on a first-come, first-served basis.
One pass per person. No purchase necessary.

IN THEATRES FEBRUARY 13TH

RED MEAT hand-pumped silt from the once-rich wellspring of humor

from the secret files of **MAX CANNON**

Milkman Dan... I have a law question. Do I have to pay another kid's doctor bill if I pushed him off the swingset and he got hurt, even though nobody else saw it?

Hold on there, Karen...

As much as I'd like to, I can't legally advise you on such matters. I'm no longer licensed to practice law in the United States since I ran afoul of the 1995 Fischer-Richards Act.

What's that?

It effectively prohibits private individuals and organizations from practicing "playground law" out of the back of a milk delivery truck.

You're lyin'. You don't even know anyways.

Perhaps. But you ought to be nicer to the man who just tape-recorded your remorseless confession.

Names in the news

ANNETTE JOHN-HALL

Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

Janet Jackson's breast blunder continues. With her damage-control machine in full throttle, the "overexposed" singer issued yet another apology — this one videotaped — in which she said that "MTV, CBS and the NFL had no knowledge of this whatsoever and, unfortunately, the whole thing went wrong at the end."

It was essentially the same written statement she issued Monday.

Meanwhile, the Chicago Tribune reports that MTV has no plans to release the tape of the rehearsal for Jackson's breast-baring by singer Justin Timberlake during Sunday's Super Bowl halftime show.

And while we're on the subject, let's not forget about Spike Lee, who put his two cents in. Speaking at Kent State University's regional campus in Stark County, Ohio, Tuesday night, the filmmaker, citing a decline in artistry, wondered, "What's going to be next? It's getting crazy, and it's all down to money. Money and fame."

The release of the MTV tape might clear up conflicting accounts of whether CBS, MTV and NFL executives were aware that the show would feature Timberlake ripping off part of Jackson's costume. All three organizations have denied advance knowledge that any nudity was planned.

More, uh, fallout

The Veterans of Foreign Wars are upset that media outlets are ignoring the poncho Kid Rock wore during the Super Bowl halftime show, which was made by cutting a slit in an American flag. Rock later tossed the flag into the crowd.

VFW commander-in-chief Edward Banas says Rock's outfit was "in poor taste and extremely disrespectful."

Brown wants annulment

James Brown, 70, has filed papers seeking an annulment from his wife, claiming she never divorced her husband from a previous marriage.

Brown was arrested last week in South Carolina on a domestic-violence charge involving Tomi Rae Brown, 33. The Godfather of Soul allegedly pushed her to the floor during an argument in a bedroom of their Beech Island, S.C., home, and threatened to kill her while holding a chair over her, according to an Aiken



Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake perform during Sunday's Super Bowl halftime show. Timberlake ripped off part of Jackson's costume, revealing her right breast.

County sheriff's report.

Brown's attorney, Jim Huff, told the Augusta Chronicle that Brown's wife said she had never sought a divorce from Javed Ahmed, whom she married in Houston in February 1997. The Browns married in 2001 and have a 2-year-old son. Tomi Rae was one of Brown's backup singers.

L. Ripa wins \$15 million award

A Philadelphia Common Pleas Court jury has ordered a Philadelphia surgeon to pay Linda Ripa, sister of TV star Kelly Ripa, \$15 million for failing to properly repair her broken ankle.

Linda Ripa, 30, was an aspiring model and actress when she was nearly killed in a 1999 car accident that fractured her pelvis, sternum and ankle and endangered her eight-month pregnancy. She claimed in her lawsuit that a surgeon who operated on the ankle three days after the crash rushed her into surgery unnecessarily without telling her of the risks, then improperly set her broken bones.

Ripa had offered to settle for \$2.4 million, but was turned down by the doctor, who said her nerve damage was caused by the crash, not the efforts to heal her.

"I'm going to hazard a guess that the plaintiff, and the plaintiff's lawyers, in their wildest dreams, did not anticipate

see NAMES, page 9



Hilton Omaha JOB FAIR

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SARAH E. LEGG
Staff writer

For the last eight years, recent UNO graduate Todd Cramer has been working on his unique hip-hop project, Max Fischer. With the rest of the Vega Knox crew, emcees Komp-Juan, Poly Psi, R-Con, and DJ 1Der, Max Fischer is taking over Omaha's underground hip-hop scene with original beats and lyricism. Max Fischer brings an exciting, upbeat hip-hop flow to every show.

The 23-year-old New York native focuses on the essences of hip-hop, which include emceeing, deejaying, break dancing, and graffiti art. He tries to stray from the marketing of the rap/pop that the MTV generation has created.

"I think hip hop needs to expand past the limitations of big-money marketing in the media. That's why I focus my rhymes on creative wordplay itself, rather than the popular topics of most rap music," Cramer said of his concentration on hip-hop. "The problem with underground heads is that they try so hard to distinguish what is 'underground' and

what is mainstream that they miss the true meaning of hip-hop completely."

Think old school, East coast influence meets Talib Kweli merged with Mos Def-style lyricism, and Max Fischer is created. Max Fischer's EP *LiveMatik* includes seven hot tracks that non-hip-hop fans can even appreciate. "American Nosebleed," the fourth track on the EP features Japanese sampling.

There are also many shows scheduled in the near future. Currently, the Vega Knox crew is recording right here on the UNO campus in the Strauss Performing Arts Center. The recording process will be finished soon.

Throughout this month, Max Fischer will be touring with Darren Keen's The Show is the Rainbow, a psycho, hip-hop extravaganza that excites even the weak at heart.

"We're just gonna rock out almost every night for 30 days in a different city each night," Cramer said. "It's not only my passion, but my dream job, as well."

The tour's official dates are from Feb. 10 through March 6. The tour will hit cities



courtesy photo

Recent UNO graduate Todd Cramer, along with the rest of the Vega Knox crew is taking over Omaha's underground hip-hop scene.

in the Southwest and on to the West Coast. Knox's hip-hop sound, visit For more information or to sample Vega www.vegaknox.com.

Library and art celebrate Black History Month

MELISSA KUCIREK
Staff writer

The W. Dale Clark Library is celebrating Black History Month and diversity in its newest effort—"Multifarious Reflections," a collection of art and photographs from local artists. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

The Omaha Public Library's main branch at 15th and Farnam Streets offers the exhibit for the entire month of February in the Michael Phipps Gallery. An opening reception for the exhibit will be held from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday. The exhibit features work by Albert Drelicharz, Walt Duda, Lars Erickson, Tim Zweiback, James Traylor and Monte Kruse. Visitors will also hear the music of Erickson and The Burt Street Boys.

Traylor, the project's coordinator, said he wanted the exhibit to reflect the "ideals of cultural diversity through art."

Cynthia Vana, special projects assistant, said the Omaha Public Library is a great place to celebrate and offer the community an exhibition like this.

"The public library is the perfect place because it has always offered books, media, and services for all people," she said. "We never exclude anyone."

It's only fitting that the art exposition encompasses such diversity, during a time when the Omaha community marks several milestones like the Omaha's 150th anniversary and the celebration of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark's journey across the west, Vana said.

The Phipps Gallery is free and open to the public. Library hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday.



Above, "Where are your glasses" and left, "Keep it real" are works of art by Wanda D. Ewing.

These and other works are currently on display in the Micheal Phipps Gallery in the W. Dale Clark Library. The display will be open through April.

The exhibit titled "Multiferious Reflections" celebrates Black History Month showcasing local artists' and photographers' work.

photos by Michelle Bishop

Salvation Army aids military families

ANGI TYLER

Staff writer

Calling all military families!

Your well being is of much concern to the Salvation Army.

In many cases there may not be a positive result from war. Many families have lost a loved one in the war and some families even find themselves in financial binds.

Some Nebraska National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve families may qualify for a \$10 gift certificate for beef products at any local grocery store. Since the price of beef can be expensive, gift certificates are given to military families to help relieve some financial stress.

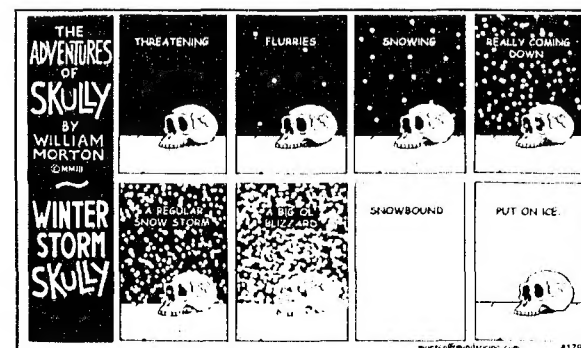
"The Salvation Army and our partners want the families of our deployed service men and woman to be reassured that we care about their well being during time of uncertainty," Joanne Bemis, divisional director of development said. "We appreciate the challenges each family faces in the name of our country's freedom."

The gift certificates are possible because of donations provided by the Nebraska Cattlemen's Association, Excel Corporation, Nebraska Corn Fed Beef and the Heartland Family Fund.

According to the Salvation Army news release, the Heartland Family Fund provided \$3,000, the Nebraska Cattlemen's Association donated \$5,000, Excel Corporation gave \$3,500 and the Nebraska Corn Fed Beef provided a \$1,000 donation.

More than 1,200 families may qualify for the beef gift certificates. The Nebraska National Guard recognizes the families who are in most need. The Salvation Army offices are located in North Platte, Kearney, Hastings, Lincoln and Norfolk.

As of January 22, 2003 funds were still available. Please call the Salvation Army's assistance line at 402-898-5860 for more information.



Snowy weather doesn't slow down Omaha

ANGI TYLER AND VALERIE CUTSHALL

Staff writer and Features editor

Don't let the snow keep you in, there are plenty of activities going on in the community.

The Omaha Children's Museum offers many activities for children. The Omaha Children's Museum, 500 S 20th St., offers interactive farmhouse, a play area and exhibits.

"The Omaha Children's Museum has been around since 1976," Christian Burt, director of public relations, said.

It started off as a traveling museum on the back of a station wagon. By 1977, it lived a long life at 18th and St. Mary Streets. In 1989, the museum was a success because of the dinosaur exhibit that featured T-Rex, which actually moved.

The museum, which was once a car dealership, has caught eyes from everywhere with its amazing renovations, Burt said. Even during renovations, the Omaha Children's Museum has been able to provide activities for some of Omaha's youngest residents.

"A little person can go to the toddler exploration center, where they can climb

under and over lots of stuff like trains.

The Faces of Homeless exhibit, featuring drawings from homeless children, opened Feb. 1 and will continue through Feb. 27.

"In this art exhibit, the art is created by children who are homeless. I encourage anyone to come and view it," he said.

Admission for the museum is \$4 for ages 16 to 59, \$5 for ages 2 to 4 and children younger than two are free.

But if you are looking for a more upbeat activity and if music is your thing, the **Ranch Bowl**, 1600 S. 72nd St. is the perfect place to chill.

The Ranch Bowl offers a lot of entertainment including bowling, music performances of all genres, arcade games and pool tables.

"Sunday night is a good night to come if you want to bowl for cheap," said Mike Brannan co-owner of Ranch Bowl. "Bowling is only \$1 a game, and if you are a drinker there are deals on that as well."

Bowling hours at the Ranch Bowl are 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. Monday through Sunday.

For all you outdoor people, **the Henry Doorly Zoo** can even be

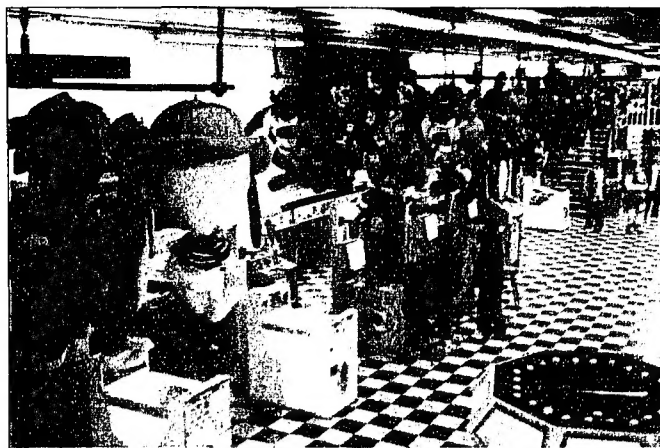


photo by Michelle Bishop

The Family Fun Center provides entertainment for kids of all ages.

enjoyable in the winter. The zoo houses several animals and special exhibits and even though many of the animals are brought inside, there is still plenty to see at the zoo. The indoor exhibits including the Desert Dome, the Scott Kingdoms of the Seas Aquarium, the Kingdoms of the Night and the gift shop stay open during the winter. Admission to the zoo is \$6 for children age 5 to 11, \$9.75 for adults and \$8.25 for seniors.

Also check out the Lauritzen Gardens at 100 Bancroft St. This exhibit give visitors a glimpse into spring. The Lauritzen Gardens has an indoor-floral hall that features a changing floral display. The changing floral show will be on display through May 9. Admission for Lauritzen Gardens is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children age 6 to 12. Members and children under 6 years old receive free admission.

If you are looking for a more sensual and even jazzy event, this is news for you.

The UNO Chamber Orchestra is holding The Ragtime and Romance Ball at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 13. The performance will be held at the William H. Thompson Alumni Center. Tickets for the performance are \$25 for singles and \$40 for couples. The money raised from the event will go toward the

chamber orchestra.

"This is going to be a really beautiful concert, and people should bring there family and friends," said Christopher Stanichar, conductor of the chamber orchestra.

There are many things to do while it's winter. So don't let the weather ruin your fun. Get out and enjoy the season's entertainment.

Family Fun Center has long been a staple of fun in Omaha. From Spaceball to Dance Dance Revolution to the Cyber Gaming Café, the center is constantly developing. In addition to all of the new games, there are many classics. Video games like *The Simpsons*, *Ninja Turtles* and *Mortal Combat* still have a place in the building. In case you want to bring a little brother or sister along with, there are more than enough games for them too. When you throw in miniature golf, skee ball and air hockey, the possibilities are endless.

Family Fun Center is located at 7052 Dodge Street. They are open Sunday through Thursday 10 a.m. to midnight and Friday and Saturday until 1 a.m. Prices vary.

J. Parker Adair also contributed to this report.



photo by Kelley Gaughan

Lauritzen Gardens located at 100 Bancroft St., has an indoor-floral hall that features a changing floral display which runs through May 9.

Enjoying the history of video gaming Part I in a series: Atari

ANDREW CUMBEE

Staff writer

Everywhere he looks there is danger. Ahead of him, alligators fill a marsh with mouths opening in anticipation of a meal. Behind them quicksand stands in his way. He has to take the underground cave passage. However, his luck has run out. He tries to jump out of the way but lands on top of the deadly cobra.

Supposedly that's what happens. You can't really tell because the man is a brown rectangle and the alligators are green lines in a blue line that represents water. Back in 1982 though, *Pitfall!* was ultra-realistic looking.

It's hard to imagine a world pre-1982, but trust me there was one. It was a bleak and desolate world where children spent their free time collecting stamps and wearing their pants too high. It is astonishing to find out that this Dark Age in American culture was taking place only 30 years ago.

This year marks the 43rd anniversary of *SpaceWar!*, the game that started a phenomenon in video games by being the first video game. So in celebration of this historic year, let's venture back to the beginning, where we will meet Nolan Bushnell, founder of Atari and the

father of video games.

In 1961, a student at MIT named Steve

Russell created The following Bushnell play game and decided he wanted to play arcade

(remember at arcade game mechanical and use video screen 1970), Bushnell's making a video version of *SpaceWar!* true with *Comp*. The game is an arcade game in Nutting Associates released *Comp*. The public hated it because it was *After Computer*.

Bushnell decided to leave Nutting and ventured off to start a new company called Atari. He decided that if his first game was too complicated for people, he could make a simpler and easier game that people would enjoy. Atari released a test version of *Pong* to a

local bar and it broke down from over-use.

During this short period in the early 1970s

Atari. However, only a few could work on Atari's home televisions. Atari's Fairchild Camera and Instrument put out a video game called *Channel F*. It was the first gaming console to use cartridges and games. The next Atari joined the market fray. The Atari (later called the Atari 2600) came out in time for Christmas.

Atari continued to be successful when it released video games. They had all of the popular games like *Centipede*, *Pitfall!* on the 2600

system and then the 5200 upgrade.

Success didn't last for Atari. In 1984, Nintendo brought its first system from Japan to the United States, killing Atari's fanbase. Sales for the 2600, the 5200 and the new 7800 disappeared.



Yet, Atari continued to fight against the new giants of Sega and Nintendo. In 1993, when the 32-bit generation (the Sega Saturn and Sony Playstation) was still just a dream, Atari was working on a top secret 64-bit home system. That system was Jaguar. The system suffered because the controllers had over 100 buttons and every game released for it was the new worst video game ever. Atari finally called it quits in 1996.

But that wasn't the end. Three years ago, Infogrames Entertainment purchased Hasbro, the company that owned all Atari titles and intellectual property. Last year the company officially changed its name to Atari. Now, it is back to its old 1990s tricks in releasing horrible games like *Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines* and *Dragonball Z: Budokai 2*.

At times the trip down Atari's memory lane was good. Most times it was bad. And nothing could be worse than Atari's last game *Enter the Matrix*. Hopefully learning knowing the history of Atari can teach us a lesson. If it is not about video games, maybe about life. Here's one: "When the going gets tough, give up, because you'll embarrass yourself."

Some of the information in this article was taken from gamespot.com, fupg.org and atari.com.

Maverick defense dominates Coyotes

PAUL FREILEND

Senior staff writer

University of Nebraska-Omaha's men's basketball team may want to think twice before dusting off their home uniforms.

The Mavericks claimed their fourth road win in the North Central Conference and their eighth win away from Omaha with a 74-67 win at South Dakota. The win was UNO's first at the DakotaDome since 1992. South Dakota came into the contest averaging 87.3 points per game, but was stopped by a resolute Maverick defense.

Maverick center Levy Jones said his team was buoyed by thoughts of ending a similar streak earlier in the season.

"This is a big win for us," Jones said. "We hadn't won up here in years. We stopped the South Dakota State streak, though, so we wanted to get this one, too. You have to give credit to South Dakota, though. They're a tough group of guys."

Neither side could establish more than a four-point lead in the first half until the final minutes. USD took a 26-25 lead on Derek Paben's layup with 3:12 left, but the Mavs scored the last six points of the half, capped by Andre Tarpley's three-pointer.

UNO never relinquished that lead and kept the Coyotes at least two possessions behind for almost the entire second half. USD whittled the lead down to 68-64 and, following a pair of Zac Robinson free throws, pulled within three points on a 30-foot desperation heave of a three-pointer from Vincent McGill. The Coyotes then fouled Jones, but the 6-foot-11 junior from Minneapolis calmly drained both free throws.

Jones said he was aware of how key those free throws might be.

"I knew they were big free throws," Jones said. "If I hadn't hit those, knowing those guys they would have probably come down and hit another 30-footer. So I just relaxed, saw nothing but the basket,

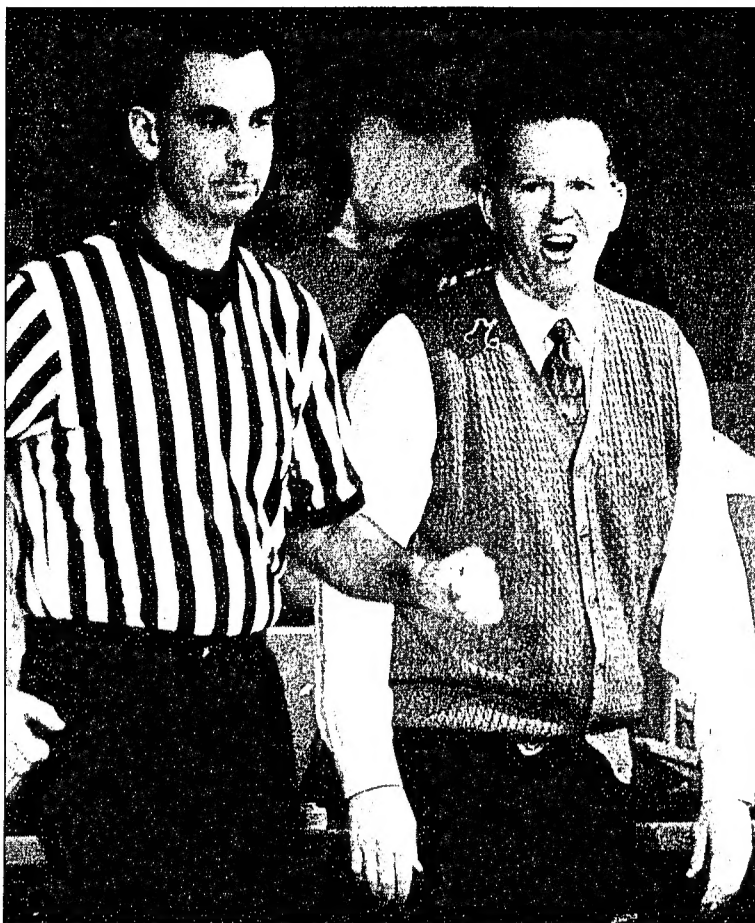


photo by Chris Machian

Head Coach Kevin McKenna shows his displeasure at a call by one of the referees during a recent game.

and knocked them down."

USD's Josh Mueller missed a three-pointer on the next possession, and Tarpley's breakaway basket capped the evening, slam-dunking both the ball and any hopes of a Coyote comeback.

Jones and Tola Dada each had 14 points and seven rebounds to lead UNO (15-5, 5-2 NCC). Ty Graham added 12 points, six assists and five rebounds while Robinson had 10 points. Tommie King, the reigning NCC Player of the Week, led all scorers with 27 points for USD (12-7, 2-5).

UNO currently sits in second place in the NCC, trailing only North Dakota State (13-7, 6-1) while

Minnesota State-Mankato (16-5), St. Cloud State (13-6) and South Dakota State (20-3) are all tied for third with a 4-3 conference record.

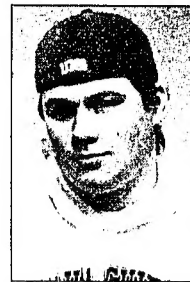
Maverick Head Coach Kevin McKenna said his team's road performance far exceeded his expectations.

"If you had told me before the season we'd be 4-1 on the road after five games, I'd have had some questions about you," McKenna said. "Every game is a big one now, though, because you only get one more shot at everyone."

UNO will start the second half of NCC play Saturday as they host USD in one of the team's five February home games.

You mean there was a football game too?

Parker Adair



Can't lose

So, I was watching TV Monday and saw all of these reporters live from Houston. They were talking about some big celebration going on. There were concerts with some of the top musicians around. Athletes from all sports were down there. The list of actors/actresses and celebrities of all shapes, colors and sizes was endless.

Was it the Grammys, the Oscars or some other Hollywood hoopla?

I was about as clueless as a dog on ice skates, and that's when I turned on ESPN. Apparently all of this was for a football game. That's absolute crazy talk. I mean who in his right mind would spend millions of dollars on a 30-second commercial at a football game?

Who would organize Janet Jackson, Kid Rock and Aerosmith for a display between a break in action? I don't know about you, but when it's halftime, that's when I learn game insight, not watch MTV's artistic rendition of a sport of gladiators.

The Super Bowl has become more about whose boobs are on TV and what to put on TV for the boobs watching, than the game itself. Somewhere in between a commercial of a dog biting a man's genitals and a monkey looking for a date, Jake Delhomme brought his team back from behind several times, and Tom Brady engineered a great last minute drive to set up a game-winning field goal.

Thirty-eight years ago, the Green Bay Packers and Kansas City Chiefs set a precedent in crowning a world champion. The demographics have since become a crowd that is wondering why Peter Brady is in the football game, and expects Marsha's broken nose to be in the injury report.

The New England Patriots twice drove into Carolina Panther territory in the first half. (Yes there is a football team in Carolina.) Once, clutch kicker Adam Vinatieri missed a field goal, another time, he had one blocked. (No, Vinatieri is not an Italian pasta dish.) I'd imagine that most people had tuned in with just three minutes left in the first half. After all, the halftime show was coming up. That's when the Patriots opened up scoring and a late barrage gave New England a 14-10 advantage.

Finally, the halftime show was on. All those points slowed down the time before Justin Timberlake could take the stage. Everyone knows there are no bigger football fans than 9 to 12-year-old girls. Timberlake and Janet Jackson decided to turn Super Bowl XXXVIII into Super Bowl Triple X, and families were quite literally watching the boob tube.

After guys turning back from watching the Lingerie Bowl on pay-per-view found out they could have had a freebie, the two teams sunk back into a great defensive battle again. Real football fans were on the edge of their seats. The Patriots scored on the second play of the fourth quarter and the Panthers answered back before failing a two-point conversion.

That's when questions flew.

She: "Honey, why did he have to go to diversion?"

He: "It's not diversion, it's a conversion, and he..."

She: "Quiet honey, the commercials are back on."

What a complete disaster!

The Panthers attained a one-point lead. Most men didn't get to see the Patriots score when they left their 64-inch platinum flat screen TV's for the comfort of their black and white 13-inch in the garage.

"Oh, honey, I'm so glad I can watch the commercials in high-def. Don't you just love the one with the old people fighting? What was that for again? Where are you going?"

It only took 1:43 for the Panthers to score and tie the game. With 68 seconds left, the wife figured out where you were.

"Honey, isn't it great, both teams can win!"

You had turned around just long enough to miss the ball get kicked out of bounds and Tom (not Peter) Brady pass to Troy (not Charlie) Brown before getting tackled by Will (not Reese) Witherspoon.

The door slammed, and you'll be sleeping on the couch until baseball season starts, but you saw Vinatieri kick a game-winning field goal for the second time in three years.

"Honey, you can turn it off, it's a re-run."

Why can't she do this during the Pro Bowl?

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This week in sports history

COMPILED BY J. PARKER ADAIR

Sports editor

Feb. 6: 1895-Former Boston Red Sox and New York Yankee George Herman Ruth was born. Babe, as he is more commonly known, retired as baseball's home run leader and arguably the greatest player of all time. 1970-The National Basketball Association voted to add four new teams, expanding to 18. The new cities would be Portland, Houston, Cleveland and Buffalo. 1993-A pioneer in both tennis and civil rights, Arthur Ashe died of pneumonia, complicated by AIDS. Among Ashe's accomplishments are being the first man to win the U.S. Open, Australian Open and Wimbledon.

Feb. 7: 1949- Yankee Joe Dimaggio became baseball's first six-figure contract man. He signed a \$100,000 deal. 1950-Red Sox' Ted Williams became the second six-figure man and the highest paid with his \$125,000 contract. 1969-Diane Crump became the first female jockey to ride at a United States parimutuel track. 1976-Darryl Sittler scored 10 points for the Toronto Maple Leafs in a National Hockey League 11-4 win.

Feb. 8: 1963-The Dallas Texans acquired permission from the American Football League to transfer to Kansas City becoming the Chiefs. 1997-Brendan Shanahan's overtime goal gave the Detroit Red Wings a 6-5 overtime win. The victory was Head Coach Scotty Bowman's NHL record 1,000th.

Feb. 9: 1966-The NHL doubled its size by expanding in the United States. The new teams were to be located in Los Angeles, the San Francisco Bay area, Minneapolis-St. Paul, St. Louis, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. They joined by New York, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Montreal and Toronto. 1920-Major League Baseball banned the use of the spitball, but didn't leave teams all wet. They allowed teams to designate pitchers that could use the pitch for one more season. 1971-Legendary pitcher Satchel Paige became the first Negro League star to be elected to the baseball Hall of Fame. 1992-Former Los Angeles Laker, Magic Johnson, who announced his retirement due to acquiring the HIV virus, came back to the NBA for one night only. He became the All-Star game MVP despite not having played at any point during the season.

Feb. 10: 1950-Swimmer Mark Spitz was born. He would go on to win seven gold medals at the 1972 Munich Olympics. 1962-Jim Beatty became the first runner to break the four-minute mile barrier indoors by running a 3: 58.9 time in Los Angeles. 1968-Figure skater Peggy Fleming, at 19, captured the first U.S. gold medal at the Winter Olympics in Grenoble, France. 1992-"Iron" Mike Tyson was found guilty of raping an 18-year old girl. The jury took only 10 hours to deliberate. Tyson was sentenced from 6 to 20 years. 1998-The United States Men's National team completed one of the biggest upsets in world soccer history by defeating Brazil 1-0 in the semifinals of the Gold Cup. Less than four years earlier, Brazil eliminated the Americans from the World Cup. Later in 1998, Brazil would become World Cup runners-up.

Feb. 11: 1949-Willie Pep won a unanimous decision over Sandy Sadler to become the first man to win boxing's featherweight championship twice. 1974-Minnesota Twins pitcher Dick Woodson became the first Major League Baseball Player to win a salary arbitration dispute. 1979-The Soviet hockey team defeated the NHL All-Stars in a deciding-third game of the first Challenge Cup. The USSR won 6-0 in New York's Madison Square Garden. A year later, a team of rag-tag US college kids defeated the Soviets in the Olympic Games. 1990-Tyson suffered the first loss of his career when James "Buster" Douglas knocked him out in the 10th round. Tyson had recorded 33 KO's in his previous 37 fights, and his career was never the same.

Feb. 12: 1934-One of the greatest NBA centers of all time, Bill Russell was born. He went on to be the "center" of the Boston Celtic dynasty that would eventually win a record 16 NBA titles, including eight consecutively. 1958-Russell scored 18 points and grabbed 41 rebounds in one game, a 119-101 win over the Syracuse Nationals. 1981-The Red Sox committed their second biggest contract blunder when they forgot to send Carlton Fisk a new contract. Fisk fought the Red Sox and won an arbitration suit that allowed him to become a free agent. He changed his sox to white by joining Chicago's American League team. 1982-Mary Decker-Tabb recorded a women's indoor mile record. Her time of 4:21.47 was recorded in Madison Square Garden.

Wrestling's "ball-buster" weekend

J. PARKER ADAIR

Sports editor

There's an old saying, "They play with 'em, wrestlers got 'em."

While basketball and football have cute little names like "rivalry week" and "bracket-buster weekend," collegiate wrestling rolls out its biggest dual weekend of the year: "ball-buster weekend 2004."

UNO will participate in two of the 19 duals between Feb. 6 and Feb. 8 that feature two teams either ranked in the top 25 or just outside of it and in Division I and II.

Ranked third nationally, the Mavericks travel to Edmond to face No. 2 Central Oklahoma Friday night. The Broncos are ranked second and are two-time defending national champions. UCO has six individuals ranked in the top eight nationally, while UNO has five.

The biggest match-up at 133-pounds, No. 5 Mitel takes on three-time defending national champion C Province. Last year, Province knocked off Waitt the national title match. This year, Waitt thinks he has what it takes to beat him.

"I've watched a couple of tapes on him," Waitt said. "I have to be more aggressive and take the match to him."

That is easier said than done as Province has won 17 consecutive matches and has a 58-1 takedown advantage.

J.D. Naig also has a tough match as the fourth ranked Maverick takes on a No. 1 Shawn Silvis. No. 1 Les Sigman looks to continue his breeze through the heavyweight ranks. The one-loss wrestler takes on No. 8 Chris

Finn.

The UCO dual is not the only action in the NCAA Friday. Division II No. 16 Chadron State takes on No. 10 Western State in a Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference match-up.

In Division I, five matches will be featured. Spates and his No. 1 Oklahoma Sooners take on No. 1 Michigan State, who is just out of the rankings. National champions two years ago No. 12 Minnesota travel to Champaign, Ill. to take on the No. 3 Illinois. California-Poly hosts Oregon State, and the winner might find itself in the next rankings.

One of the two biggest match-ups takes place between No. 9 Lehigh and No. 11 Hofstra, both traditional wrestling schools. The other will be the bitter feud between No. 5 Michigan and No. 21 Ohio State in Columbus.

The Mavericks journey to take on UNK led by three, ranked wrestlers, including All-American No. 2 Bryce Bey at 125-pounds.

Maverick Junior Dustin Tovar will have to take on the No. 2 and No. 3 wrestlers on back-to-back nights.

Waitt will take on No. 7 Adam Keiswetter. In the home dual last year, Waitt defeated the Loper, helping the Mavs to a win and propelling himself into the national spotlight.

Last year, the two teams split. UNK won at the national duals and UNO won the regular season. That same night, UCO hosts Gannon, a team that lost to UNO in the national duals. Findlay will take on

Pittsburgh-Johnstown. Adams State and Chadron State round out the top Division II match-ups.

Wrestling fans in Nebraska must make a choice of going west to watch the UNK dual or going east to see the

No. 2 Cornhuskers take on the No. 8 Iowa State Cyclones. UNO is a very tough team to beat in Ames, and Head Coach Bobby Douglas is sure to have his team ready. Former Maverick and former Head Coach Mark Manning has his team at its highest ranking ever.

As if two ball-busting days wasn't enough, eight D-I duals on Sunday will make people forget basketball even existed.

California-Poly takes on both No. 16 Arizona State and No. 22 California-Bakersfield. California-Bakersfield also takes on Fresno State, just out of the rankings. Michigan State hosts No. 19 Purdue while No. 23 Edinboro of Ohio hosts No. 14 Cornell.

It gets interesting with two Big Ten match-ups. Illinois hosts No. 13 Wisconsin, and the No. 5 Michigan Wolverines battle against No. 6 Penn State.

This year, Spate's Sooners host defending National Champion No. 1 Oklahoma State. One of America's greatest wrestlers, head coach John Smith takes his Cowboys to Norman and the battle for Sooner State supremacy will attract one of the biggest fan bases of the year.

American sports have a choice this week. Is it the rah-rah rivalry week of college basketball or the great matches of ball-buster weekend 2004?

from NAMES, page 5

this case bringing in \$15 million," said David Corujo, a lawyer for Frankford Hospital. The surgeon's name was not released.

Natalie Cole divorcing

Grammy Award-winning singer Natalie Cole has filed for divorce from Kenneth Dupree, her husband of just over two years. Cole, 53, cited irreconcilable differences in papers filed Jan. 30 in Los Angeles Superior Court. She married Dupree, who is pastor of the Victory Baptist Church in Nashville, in October 2001. It was her third marriage.

No role model

R. Kelly's nomination for an NAACP Image Award has sparked controversy and could result in a change in the way nominees are selected, the Baltimore Sun reports.

Kelly, 35, who has been nominated for his latest album, "Chocolate Factory," is awaiting trial on charges of having sex with an underage girl.

NAACP president Kweisi Mfume plans to ask the civil rights organization's board of directors to

change the selection process for the March 6 awards, a change that could come as early as Feb. 21.

"Sometimes, some of the people outside of the NAACP who vote to select the initial list of nominees for the Image Awards do not necessarily see things the way we do," Mfume said. Image awardees are selected by 300 members of the NAACP and 150 members of the television, recording and publishing industries.

Douglas gives \$1 million

Oscar-winning actor Michael Douglas, dispelling the "greed is good" philosophy advocated by his character Gordon Gekko in the 1987 film "Wall Street," gave \$1 million to the University of California, Santa Barbara, for the school's new Center for Film, Television and New Media. The lobby of the new center will be named for Douglas, 59, who graduated from the school in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in dramatic art.

A bond girl?

Britney Spears met in London recently with the producers of the James Bond movies, reportedly at her

request. Spears' official Web site says only that she has signed on to produce and star in an adaptation of author Tobi Tobin's "Door to Door," in which she will play a teenager trying to catch her big break in Hollywood. If Spears were to play a Bond girl, she would be in good company. Others who have appeared in the franchise include Ursula Andress, Jane Seymour, Denise Richards and Halle Berry.

Bobby-Whitney update

A preliminary hearing for singer Bobby Brown, charged with battery after he allegedly hit his wife, singer/actress Whitney Houston, has been postponed to May 5, a Fulton County, Ga., magistrate court clerk said. Police responded to a call by Houston to the couple's home near Alpharetta in December. She told police Brown had struck her on the left side of her face. Police said Houston had a bruised cheek and a cut inside her upper lip.

Houston, 40, and Brown, 35, have been married since 1992. They have a 10-year-old daughter, Bobbi Kristina. And she's the only Brown we feel for.

Read The Gateway online
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The Osbournes are back

MTV's Osbournes have returned for another season, and America is waiting with eagerness. The staged reality show that follows a rich British family around to hear them scream, argue and fight with one another is back for all of us to enjoy. You get to see them live in their million-dollar home with about 20 dogs running around pooping on rugs that cost about \$10,000. We all feel mad when they get angry about some bone that life throws them because their minor problems become played out on the TV so much that they become major.

The show itself has been a launching pad for the career of Kelly Osbourne. I know what career? Since she can't sing, and she isn't attractive, she needed some way to get her face on television. Not to mention, her CD in music stores. Don't forget about America's most eligible bachelor Jack Osbourne. The chubby little brother is much like his sister. He, too, has no talent, but plenty of connections. I hate the Osbournes. They display everything that is wrong with television.

One day, I came across the Sharon Osbourne Show while channel surfing. While watching that episode, I witnessed her getting Botox injections into her forehead to remove wrinkles.

She even made time to schedule an appointment with her doctor for a breast lift. During the show, she had an obese young lady come on stage and asked the girl about her fight against obesity. Sharon said she understood her and gave her a special gift — gastric bypass surgery. Like I said before, I hate the Osbournes

Black man w/ attitude



Early Bryant

My biggest complaint with television is the example that it sets for the majority of viewers. No matter how good your life is and how much you appreciate what you got, someone has it way better and they don't even appreciate it.

While I use the Osbournes as pincushions, they can't help who they are. They are just one of many families in America with the problem that life is great and you may be as cheesy and as lame as you think, but you still drive a BMW. The people who put them on TV are the ones to blame and we as the public should take the blame for watching these shows for whatever worthless entertainment value they have. None. We may think it's funny to watch Ozzy struggle to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, or think it's cool to watch Kelly deal with anger management and even how Jack's own battle with being cool has affected his life.

That doesn't bother us because it's entertainment, it's not a family with issues. It's entertainment. So we will continue to boost the ratings of this show and shows like it until something better comes along because of our obsession with other people's lives. After all this is the same audience that had nearly split a vote of 29 million people in half with a few thousand more going to America's teddy bear Ruben Studdard. Well I say to everyone at UNO to put down the remote and grab a book or take up a hobby because I actually believe that television will rot your brain. So until next week's column, I'll be at home playing Playstation 2's *Madden 2004*, any challengers?

Important investing: Part two

One of the world's biggest financial crises was the savings and loans debacle of the 80s. In that crazy episode, American taxpayers were forced to pick up the tab. Of course those caught in the scandal argued that it was an industry-wide thing, that "everybody was doing it." In other words, it's not us, it's the economy! The projected demand for housing and other construction simply didn't materialize. It was something larger than us, something that we couldn't control. We were simply being unfortunate. So they justified their monkey-see, monkey-do stupidity.

Well, what about Charlie Munger? He was one of the most intelligent men I have ever met and in the midst of the mania, he was disciplined enough to close down all of the branches of his financial outfit to save one and the headquarters. Now, under normal circumstances this would call for 100 percent discipline. In a time when every Tom, Dick and Harry in your industry is effortlessly making easy money simply by following the crowd, it's saintly.

Charlie is by no means an exception. Even in the midst of the Great Depression of the 1930s, when it seemed like every bank was either folding or was on the verge of doing so, there were some strong banks conservatively ran by ethical and disciplined bankers. Those banks were the ones that not only didn't have to close, but had more cash in hands than the depositors could cash out on any day throughout that unfortunate period of American history.

When other banks closed their doors and depositors lined up outside their buildings, these conservative banks opened their doors. Do we try to learn from these great managers

Making sense



Tin Mak

and ethical leaders of business? No. It seems like people generally hate to learn the tough, obvious, yet simple lessons. Rather, they prefer the herd instinct, going with the flow, doing the "in" thing, chasing the "hot" stocks, trying to catch "the next big thing."

Charlie Munger and Warren Buffett have always seemed to be speaking for the average Midwesterner when they straight-talk about these industry and professional

players who often step out of line. In an accurate metaphor, Charlie once said that compared to many in the business world, they were the Virgin Marys. Anyone who has heard Charlie speak knows real well that this is a man who habitually and perpetually understates things, and this comment of his is not exactly an exception.

Too bad that the average investor doesn't see through all these. The best investment advice one can get is to continue to observe and rationally judge the integrity of the managers. Whether it's a public corporation, mutual fund, investment partnership, or a side business you are thinking of going into with your high school buddies, the number one consideration is the integrity of the person in charge. If he or she is honest, he or she won't lead you into bad deals. Conversely, if he or she's a charlatan, no matter how much money the business really makes, you probably won't see much of it.

Sure, integrity is almost impossible to measure. For most people, it's even outright difficult to recognize when they see it. But recognizing integrity remains the most important skill an investor needs to learn, practice, and master. It's hard to do, but it's not an impossible task. With practice and with the passing of time, one will get better at it.

The dummies guide to understanding Iran

SCOTT SUTTON

Columnist

Iran has been in the news quite a bit lately, with the Earthquake and various officials from both countries confirming and then denying closer ties. The fact is that the hardheaded ultraconservatives in each country are butting their hard heads against the wishes of the doves in each camp.

I've heard a lot of odd things from Nebraskans about Iran: statements such as, "They all hate us" and "Their women have no freedom" and "Those A-rabs over in Iran better watch it!" So, for those of you who admit to knowing little about Iran, but are interested—which is why I assume you are reading this—here are some facts:

A LITTLE HISTORY

Iran was always known as 'Iran' by its people, but for centuries Europeans referred to it as Persia. It was the world's first empire. Iranians are not Arabs!

The Shah (king) of Iran, though trying to bring his country into the 20th Century, was nevertheless an autocratic dictator who had thousands tortured. The CIA fully backed him. As a result of angering the religious leaders and beating up the average Joe in the street, in 1979 the Iranians welcomed back exiled religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and the Shah fled. Americans were unpopular for a while, to say the least. Nowadays, most Iranians deeply regret that Khomeini came to power.

SOME FACTS:

Total population is about 65 million. Approximately 70 percent are under the age of 30.

Some 6 million Iranians live in abject poverty; another 16 million live at the poverty line. 10 percent are 'rich.' There is a growing middle class.

Most people can barely afford day-to-day life. The very poor know very little about America and don't even have access to movies.

WHO EXACTLY IS IN CHARGE NOW?

There is a parliament of 290 elected members. For the sake of simplicity, there are conservatives and reformers. Nearly three quarters of the parliament are reformers.

The president of the country is a reformist, Mohammed Khatami.

Besides this elected parliament, there is a twelve-member Guardian Council, the members of which are appointed by the supreme religious leader of the country, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who succeeded Khomeini.

THE PROBLEM:

For the last several years the reformers have been trying to pass more liberal laws and open up the country—and importantly—patch things up with the United States. But supreme ruler Khamenei and his Guardian Council, who have constantly squashed reforms, are the ones so adamantly anti-US. One young Iranian woman said,

"These mullahs terrorize the population."

Ali, an Iranian I know, gave an example: "his sister was walking with her husband, and two militiamen with guns and big motorbikes came along and hit her leg with the butt of the gun because some of her hair was showing. They are thugs who still lash young girls for wearing make-up. It's like 15th-Century Europe.

WHAT IRANIAN LEADERS

NOW WANT: Everyone knows now that 9-11 changed everything. The reformists want to go straight to America and have a relationship. The mullahs know their days are numbered and are afraid of the Americans. As of January 2004, the religious leaders under Khomeini have declared many of the reformist candidates ineligible (because they are 'reformers'). The Reformist party and thousands of ordinary Iranians are organizing mass sit-ins and demonstrations.

WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE THINK ABOUT IRAN AND THE 'GREAT SATAN':

The overwhelming majority of young people (some 70 percent of the population remember) hate the leadership of the religious leaders. In contrast, they are hopelessly in love with anything 'American.' A BBC program showed young Iranians at Internet cafes learning everything they could about America. "They live for MTV, rap music, and movies," Ali said.

But...they mistrust Uncle Sam. The United States has a bad history of breaking promises to a number of nations.

WOMEN'S ROLE:

Women are required to wear the manto (like a long dress) and head covering. "Any color is allowed except red. But nowadays women can get by showing a little hair. It's getting better," an Iranian woman said.

Legally, women are equal to men in terms of voting, working, traveling and going to school. A woman still needs her father's permission to marry, at least the first time. Once she's divorced, she can remarry without permission.

CULTURAL INFLUENCES:

"The new generation is changing fast," Ali said. "They are getting away from religion, accepting western culture. Drugs is replacing religion big time. Ecstasy is easy to get in Tehran. Virginity used to be important, but in big cities open sex is accepted amongst the youth. Many parents are happy if the daughter has only one boyfriend."

the

Gateway

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Since 1913

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Letters must be signed using the writer's first and last names. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number for verification purposes only. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.

Welcome to UNO Mav-Rec

554-2634 HPER 100 www.unomaha.edu/~wwwocr

Mav-Rec GroupEx

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
12 - 12:50 pm Muscle Conditioning HPER 112 Janine	12 - 12:50 pm Basic Training HPER 112 Janine	12 - 12:50 pm Circuit Training HPER 110 Sara	12 - 12:50 pm Circuit Interval HPER 112 Janine
5:15 - 6:15 pm Beginning Yoga HPER 231 Anne	12 - 12:45 pm Aqua Lunch HPER Pool Merrilee	5:15 - 6:15 pm W.E.T. HPER Pool Merrilee	12 - 12:45 pm Aqua Lunch HPER Pool Crystal
5:15 - 6:15 pm Step HPER 110 Lily	2:15 - 3:30 pm Step / Crunch HPER 230 Mara	5:15 - 6:15 pm Beginning Pilates HPER 230 Anne	2:15 - 3:15 pm Step / Strength HPER 230 Mara
6:15 - 7:15 pm Beginning Pilates HPER 110 Ali	5:15 - 6:15 pm Deep Water Exercise HPER Pool Sheryl	5:30 - 6:30 pm Step "M" Tone HPER 110 Lily	5:15 - 6:15 pm Deep Water Exercise HPER Pool Sheryl
7:15 - 8:15 pm Turbo Kick HPER 110 Allison K	5:30 - 6:30 pm Alternative Aerobics HPER 110 Allison K	7:30 - 8:30 pm S.W.E.A.T. HPER 231 Allison K	5:30 - 6:30 pm Turbo Kick HPER 231 Allison K

Friday

2 - 12:45 pm
Aqua Lunch
HPER Pool
Sheryl

Mav-Rec Outdoor Venture Center

- Climbing Wall -

Hours of Operation

M/W: Noon-9 pm
Tue/Thurs: 1-9 pm
Friday: Noon-8 pm
Sat/Sun: Noon-6 pm

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Mav-Rec

Spring Break 2004

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Saturday, March 13 - Sunday, March 21, 2004

The Grand Teton is one of the country's most beautiful ranges. This is evident by their sharp, rugged peaks rising up 13,770 feet above the Wyoming landscape. With the snowfall the area turns into a frosty wonderland, a frozen playground for cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and winter camping enthusiasts. If you are interested or would like more information join us for the informational meeting to get more details

Informational Meeting: Monday, Feb. 16, 7 pm

Early Registration Cost: \$362 UNO/\$416 GP

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Sport Clubs

Open House

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HPER Room 102

Mav-Rec DANCE

Spring Dance Lessons

Swing

Learn how to dance many types of swing to a variety of music

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Sundays

February 15, 22, 28 and March 7

Session Two:

Sundays

March 28, and April 4, 18, and 25

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Spring Dance Lessons

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Both Sessions

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Session II

Mondays and Thursdays

5:15 - 6:16 pm

March 1, 4, 8, 11, 22, 25, 29, and April 1, 5, 8

\$8 for students, \$10 for HPER activity card holders,

\$12 for non-activity card holders

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Questions? 554-2539

Mav-Rec IM Sports

A League 5X5 Basketball Top Ten

Previous Rank

1) Trfecta (1-0) vs. Lollipopz, 2/8/04 2

2) Ball Hair (1-0) vs. #10 Runnin' Rabbits, 2/8/04 3

3) Red Rockets (0-1) vs. #5 Pike A, 2/4/04 1

4) Sig Ep A (1-0) vs. #8 Lambda Chi, 2/4/04 5

5) Pike A (1-0) vs. #3 Red Rockets, 2/4/04 8

6) South O Chill (1-0) vs. #7 The Dirty 7, 2/8/04 NR

7) The Dirty 7 vs. #6 South O Chill, 2/8/04 NR

8) Lambda Chi Alpha (1-0) vs. #4 Sig Ep A, 2/4/04 NR

9) Thoroughbreds (0-1) vs. Shooter's Club, 2/8/04 9

10) Runnin' Rabbits (0-1) vs. #2 Ball Hair, 2/8/04 NR

Players of the Week

Wednesday Men's A League

Matt Mrocek (Pike A)

Sunday Night Men's A League

William Rickley (South O Chill)

B League 5X5 Basketball Top Ten

Previous Rank

1) Southsiders (1-0) vs. No Names, 2/4/04 1

2) Arena (1-0) vs. #4 Discovery Channel, 2/8/04 2

3) Hustlers (1-0) vs. Pike B, 2/4/04 4

4) Team Discovery Channel (1-0) vs. Arena, 2/8/04 5

5) Lincoln (1-0) vs. Bag N Shag, 2/8/04 7

6) Showtime (1-0) vs. Hedge Hogs, 2/8/04 8

7) Turfmonsters (1-0) vs. #10 Swampnuts, 2/8/04 9

8) Uncle Jesse's Superstars (1-0) vs. Devils, 2/4/04 10

9) The Bond (1-0) vs. Dolly Llamas, 2/8/04 NR

10) Swampnuts (1-0) vs. #7 Turfmonsters, 2/8/04 NR

Players of the Week

Wednesday B League

Joe Stanek (Uncle Jesse's Superstars)

Sunday B League

Zach Hansen (Lincoln)

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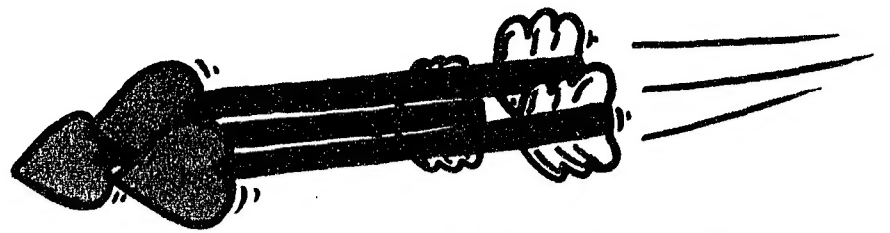
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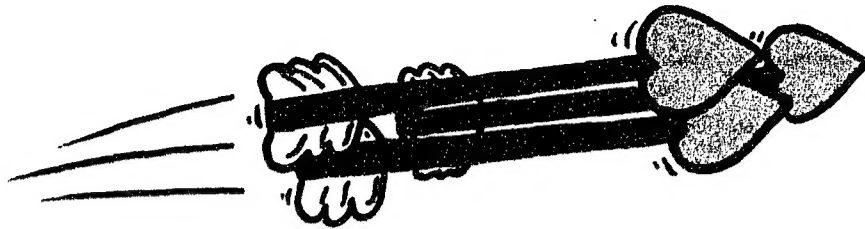
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